

A RESOLUTION to designate the bridge that spans Rushing Creek on old State Route 69 in Benton County as the "Dennis Rushing Bridge".

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor those citizens who contributed significantly to Tennessee's panoramic history and proud heritage; and

WHEREAS, a native of Anson County, North Carolina, Dennis Rushing courageously served his country as a Corporal in Captain Gray's Company of the Second Regiment of the Tennessee Militia Infantry in the War of 1812; and

WHEREAS, in 1819, Dennis Rushing and his brother Willis were the first settlers of Benton County and settled land adjoining a creek in a smooth, rolling valley; this area is now known as the Rushing Creek community; and

WHEREAS, the Rushing brothers filed a joint claim for some 200 acres deeded to the United States government by the Chickasaw Indians, and made their homes with their respective families in this idyllic spot; and

WHEREAS, Dennis Rushing and his wife, the former Kisiah Bell, lived happily in the Rushing Creek area for their entire lives, and upon their passing, their dwelling and home place were acquired by one of their nine children, David L. Rushing and his wife, the former Sarah Moore; and

WHEREAS, upon his death in 1860, Dennis Rushing was laid to rest in the Rushing Family Cemetery in Benton County; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the Rushing family has continued to be a viable presence in Benton County, and Dennis Rushing's descendants have proven themselves to be exemplary citizens, just as their ancestors were; and

WHEREAS, today, Dennis Rushing's great-great-grandson owns the original homesite located by the family cemetery, and his great-great-granddaughter owns another portion of the original homestead; and

WHEREAS, because of the Rushing family's long and honorable history as outstanding citizens of Benton County, and because of Dennis Rushing's historically significant role as one of the first settlers of Benton County, it is only appropriate that a certain bridge spanning Rushing Creek near his homestead should bear his worthy name; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the bridge that spans Rushing Creek just beyond Old Reynoldburg Road on old State Route 69 in Benton County is hereby designated as the "Dennis Rushing Bridge" in honor of the Rushing family's numerous contributions to the illustrious history and proud heritage of Benton County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such bridge as the "Dennis Rushing Bridge".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.